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The use of England and Wales rainfall figures - L P SMITH

During an investigation into the effect of weather on cereal averages, an attempt was made to find the mean rainfall in any one year over the arable land.

Some 80 stations were used as samples and their rainfall totals in March and April were weighted with respect to the cereal averages in their neighbourhood, to give a mean value for England.

Comparing these results with the England and Wales figures prepared by British Rainfall it is found:-

Year	B.R. Means (1) March	(2) April	(3) Sum	Arable Means (4) March	(5) April	(6) Sum
1959	2.6	3.1	5.7	2.0	2.3	4.3
1960	2.0	1.8	3.8	1.5	0.9	2.4
1961	0.6	3.8	4.4	0.3	2.8	3.1
1962	1.7	2.7	4.4	1.3	1.9	[illegible] 3.2
1963	3.9	3.1	7.0	2.8	2.3	5.1
1964	3.8	2.6	6.4	3.2	2.1	5.3
1965	2.8	2.5	5.3	2.3	1.7	4.0
1966	1.4	4.1	5.5	0.8	3.2	4.0
1967	2.1	1.9	4.0	1.5	1.6	3.1
1968	2.2	2.6	4.8	1.1	1.9	3.0

The correlations are as follows:-

Columns (1) and (4)	0.97
(2) and (5)	0.96
(3) and (6)	0.95

This suggests that the B.R. figures can be used with confidence as a relative index for a variety of purposes.

Any comments or criticism on this paper should be refered to the author.

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